

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of manufacturing a honeycomb structure, comprising:  
adding water to silicon carbide particles and kneading the same into a kneaded raw material, the silicon carbide having an average particle diameter of not less than 2  $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than a honeycomb rib thickness  $\times 0.23$  and with a logarithmic standard deviation of a particle size distribution of not less than 0.15 and not more than 0.40;

extruding the kneaded raw material by extrusion into a honeycomb extruded body;  
and

drying, calcining, and firing the extruded body.

2. (Original) The method of manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 1, wherein the logarithmic standard deviation of the particle size distribution was not less than 0.17 and not more than 0.40.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 and 2~~, wherein a content of the silicon carbide is not less than 50 wt%.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein a proportion of particles with a particle diameter of not less than half the honeycomb rib thickness is less than 5 wt%.

5. (Original) Silicon carbide particles for manufacturing a honeycomb structure by extrusion, wherein

an average particle diameter is not less than 2  $\mu\text{m}$  and not more than a honeycomb rib thickness  $\times 0.23$  and a logarithmic standard deviation of a particle size distribution is not less than 0.15 and not more than 0.40.